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Rock Bogged Down In New Spy Spoof

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"BLINDFOLD" refers to the state in which Rock Hudson is meant to operate for the new spy spoof cum analysis and alligators. That way he can't see the good guys for the bad guys—only the 'gators know for sure.

The audiences at the Town are also meant to be kept somewhat in the dark as this New York psychiatrist sloshes through South Carolina swamps and gambols about Central Park on horseback in counterpoint to bike-riding Claudia Cardinale. But her total appearance, abetted by wardrobe and water, precludes much concentration on the good-guy/bad guy lineup.

This is something of a blessing because Hudson, who's trying to be courageous, clear-headed and comic, gives the thing away half-way through the film with the heavy handed support of the scenarists.

It's almost moot whether the National Security Agency's Man of the Central Intelligence Agency operative is really the good Government guy (neither agency will own up to Hudson via long distance). The point is that one of them is an international subversive out to kidnap Miss Cardinale's scientist brother.

He's had a nervous breakdown and is prime for defection.

Psychiatrist Hudson has gotten into the case to treat the scientist at Camp X where he's taken, blindfolded naturally. Then he has to backtrack

"BLINDFOLD" Universal release of Marvin Schwartz production. Directed by Philip Iurie. Screenplay, Dunne W. Menger; based on novel by Lucille Fletcher; camera (Technicolor), Joseph MacDonald; music, Lalo Schiffrin; editor, Ted J. Krutz; asst. director, Terence Nelson.

THE CAST

Dr. Bartholomew Snow	Rock Hudson
Vicky Vincenti	Claudia Cardinale
General Pratt	Jack Warden
Fitzpatrick	Guy Stockwell
Detective Harrigan	Brad Dexter
Smiley	Anne Seymour
Arthur Vincenti	Alejandro Rey
Captain Davis	Harl Rhodes
Michelangelo Vincenti	Vito Scotti
Lavinia Vincenti	Angela Clarke
Mario Vincenti	John Megna

all the way from Manhattan with Miss Cardinale, a stripper turned fiancée, in her uncle's delivery truck filled with store mannikins. It's all very complicated, until the alligators come on camera—they only sup on subversives.

But even with Miss Cardinale's considerable mise en scene, the color, comedy and violence will only up to another variation on the spy spoof, a cinematic syndrome that's fast become a disease.